GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2420
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2001
VALUE ADDED SERVICE
GOWDAR MALLIKARJUNAPPA;IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in a bid to diversify and upgrade its services to meet the challenges of the privatising world, the Department of Posts has planned to introduce a host of value-added services including `Bill Post` in the State of Karnataka, which will enable payment of various bills such as water bill, power bill and others at the post offices itself; and

(b) if so, the extent to which it is likely to help the people and also improve the postal services in Karnataka State?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) Yes, Sir. The new value-added service `eBill Post` is to be launched in Bangalore and Kolkata as a pilot scheme to collect, account for and update telephone bills in electronic method/mode.
Based on the experience of this pilot phase the scheme would be extended to other utility bills like water bills, power bills etc. in the post offices.

(b) Once the service is in place, the people will be able to pay most of their utility bills at any of the post offices offering this service. There may not be a need for them to go to different service providers for settling their bills.